

STIMULUS WATCH: WEEK 31

*True or False: Stimulus Road Projects Have Decreased
Unemployment Rates. FALSE*

- Last February, President Obama signed into law his \$757 billion Stimulus package which dumped money into road projects throughout the country. Ten months after the bill was enacted, the AP conducted an analysis on whether road projects actually decrease local unemployment rates. This analysis was later reviewed by five independent economists at five universities.
- The AP came to the conclusion, which was backed up by the economists, that the Stimulus had no affect on local unemployment and barely helped the construction industry. The AP found that there was hardly any “connection between stimulus money and the number of construction workers hired or fired since Congress passed the recovery program.”
- The AP also found that “local unemployment rates rose and fell regardless of how much stimulus money Washington poured out for transportation.”
- Under the House Republican Stimulus Alternative, taxpayer funds would not have been spent in vain. Instead, Republicans would have created twice as many jobs at half the cost. To learn how visit:
<http://republicanwhip.house.gov/Jobs/>
- **Sources:**
<http://finance.yahoo.com/news/STIMULUS-WATCH-Unemployment-apf-3944367028.html?x=0&.v=7>

The Washington Watch Report is available on the House Republican Whip's website: <http://republicanwhip.house.gov/blog/wwindex.html>

It is updated weekly with new items of wasteful stimulus spending, a look at jobs created by the stimulus.